

## REMARKS

In the Office Action<sup>1</sup>, the Examiner rejected claims 1-15 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph; and rejected claims 1-15 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,182,094 to Humpleman et al. ("Humpleman") in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,526,130 to Kim ("Kim"), and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,177,931 to Alexander et al. ("Alexander") and U.S. Patent No. 6,002,394 to Schein et al. ("Schein").

Applicant proposes to amend claims 1, 8, and 15. Claims 1-15 remain pending.

Regarding the rejection of claims 1-15 under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph, the Examiner states that the "original disclos[ure] is deemed to fail to support the limitation of: 'regardless of whether the cause of double booking is located on the information processing device or on a second processing device on the system'" (Office Action at page 2). Applicant respectfully disagrees. The following excerpts from Applicant's specification is an example of teaching which renders the claims in full compliance with 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph:

[I]t is therefore the object of the present invention to provide an information processing device, an information processing method and a medium with which any of the AV devices or the users of a network system of the type under consideration can input detailed information on a recording reservation and provide the remaining AV devices and the users with the detailed information on the recording reservations that the AV device or the user has and it is possible to realize a means to be used by any of the AV devices or the users to provide the remaining AV devices and the users with the detailed information on the recording reservations that the AV device or the user has. Such a system can effectively avoid occurrence of so-called double booking and is easy to use for the users (Paragraph 0012).

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<sup>1</sup> The Office Action contains a number of statements reflecting characterizations of the related art and the claims. Regardless of whether any such statement is identified herein, Applicants decline to automatically subscribe to any statement or characterization in the Office Action.

Therefore, according to the invention, it is possible to display a warning of any instance of double booking or recording reservations to the user and clearly show the cause of the double booking . . . the reservations of the other devices of the network system can also be displayed with the information for the confirmation regardless if the other devices are external (Paragraph 0025).

Applicant submits that paragraphs 0012 and 0025, among others, support the limitation of: "regardless of whether the cause of double booking is located on the information processing device or on any other remaining processing device in the same network" as recited in amended claims 1, 5, and 18. Therefore, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of claims 1-15 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph.

Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection of claims 1-15 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Humpleman* in view of *Kim*, and further in view of *Alexander* and *Schein*. *Humpleman*, *Kim*, *Alexander*, and *Schein* taken alone or in combination, fail to teach or suggest each and every element of claims 1-15.

*Humpleman*, *Kim*, *Alexander*, and *Schein* taken alone or in combination, fail to teach or suggest the subject matter of claim 1. Claim 1, as amended, recites a device, including for example, "control means [ ] for cancelling the recording reservation if double booking occurs and if the recording reservation is a preliminary reservation." Neither *Humpleman*, *Kim*, *Alexander*, nor *Schein* disclose at least the claimed reservation means.

Accordingly, *Humpleman*, *Kim*, *Alexander*, and *Schein* fail to render the subject matter of claim 1 obvious. Independent claims 8 and 15, though of different scope than claim 1, distinguish *Humpleman*, *Kim*, *Alexander*, and *Schein* for at least the same reason as claim 1. Claims 2-7 and 9-14 depend from independent claims 1 and 8,

respectively, and are therefore allowable for at least the same reason as independent claims 1 and 8.

Applicant respectfully requests that this Amendment be entered by the Examiner. Applicant submits that the proposed amendments of claims 1, 8, and 15 place the application in condition for allowance. In the alternative, the proposed amendments at least place the application in better form for appeal.

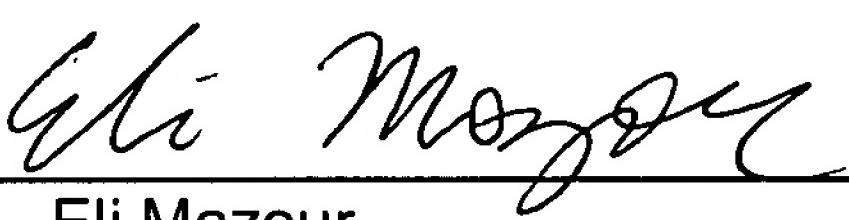
In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicant respectfully requests entry of the amendment, reconsideration of this application, and the timely allowance of the pending claims.

Please grant any extensions of time required to enter this response and charge any additional required fees to Deposit Account 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

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